

Merriam- Webster's Collegiate[®] Dictionary

ELEVENTH
EDITION

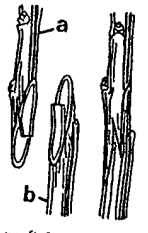


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graffiti n [It. pl. of graffito] (1945): usu. unauthorized writing or drawing on a public surface
usage Graffiti, which also serves as the plural of graffito, is commonly used as a singular mass noun (graffiti was depressing people who rode the subways—New Yorker) Graffiti comes in various styles—S. tablished as the mass-noun use of data. Use of graffiti as a singular count noun is still quite rare and is not standard.

graft v [ME grafte, fr. AF greffe, graefe stylus, graph, fr. ML graphium, fr. L, stylus, fr. Gk graphion, fr. graphain to write—more at CARVE] (14c) 1 a: a grafted plant b: to attach (a chemical unit) to a main molecular chain 3: to implant (living tissue) surgically ~ vt 1: to become grafted 2: to perform grafting — graft-er n



graft 1c: a scion, b stock

graft n [Dial. graft, vb., to work] (1853) chiefly Brit WORK, LABOR
graft [origin unknown] vt (1859): to get (illicit gain) by graft ~ vt: to practice graft

graft n (1865): the acquisition of gain (as money) in dishonest or questionable ways; also: illegal or unfair gain

graft-er n [graft-tij] n (ca. 1895): the principles and practice of grafting graft-versus-host disease n (1965): a potentially fatal bodily condition that results when T cells from a tissue or organ transplant and esp. a bone marrow transplant react immunologically against the recipient's antigens attacking cells and tissues

graham cracker n [grah-am-l] n [Graham flour] (1882): a slightly sweet cracker made of whole wheat flour
graham flour n [Sylvester Graham †1851 Am. dietary reformer] (1834): whole wheat flour

grail n [ME greal, graal, fr. MF, bowl, grail, fr. ML gradalis] 1 cap: the cup or platter used according to medieval legend by Christ at the Last Supper and thereafter the object of knightly quests 2: the object of an extended or difficult quest

grain n [ME, partly fr. AF graine seed, kermes, fr. L grana, pl. of granum—more at CARVE] (14c) 1 a (1) obs: a single small hard seed (2): a seed or fruit of a cereal grass: CARYOPHYTE b: the seeds or fruits of various food plants including the cereal grasses and in commercial and statutory usage other plants (as the soybean) c: plants producing grain 2 a (1) a small hard particle or crystal (2): any of the particles produced in a photographic material by its development; also: the size of such minute portion or particle (3): an individual crystal in a metal b: a grain (truth) 3 a: kermes or a scarlet dye made from it b: cochineal or a brilliant scarlet dye made from it c: a fast dye d archaic: COLOR, side of a skin or hide 5: a unit of weight based on the weight of a grain of wheat taken as an average of the weight of grains from the middle of the ear—see WEIGHT table 6 a: the stratification of wood fibers in a piece of wood b: a texture due to constituent particles or fibers (the ~ of a rock) c: the direction of threads in cloth 7: tactile quality 8 a: b: natural disposition: TEMPER (lying goes against my ~) b: a basic or characteristic quality c: a prevalent philosophy or convention (teaching against the ~) —grained v [grānd]

grain n (1530) 1: INORAIN 2: to form into grains: GRANULATE 3 to paint in imitation of the grain of wood or stone 4: to feed with grain ~ vt: to become granular: GRANULATE —grain-er n

grain alcohol n (1883): ETHANOL
grain elevator n (1852): a building for elevating, storing, discharging, and sometimes processing grain

grains of salt (1647): a skeptical attitude
grains of paradise (15c): the pungent seeds of a West African plant (Aframomum melegueta) of the ginger family that are used as a spice

grain sorghum n (1920): any of several sorghums cultivated primarily for grain—compare BORCO

grainy v [grā-nē] adj grain-i-er, -est (15c) 1: resembling or having some characteristic of grain: not smooth or fine 2 of a photograph grainy [gram] n [obs. Fd] a metric unit of mass equal to 1/1000 kilogram and nearly equal to the mass of one cubic centimeter of water at maximum density—see METRIC SYSTEM table 2: the weight of a substance under the acceleration of gravity

grand n [F granme, fr. LL gramma, a small weight, fr. Gk gramma, a gramma letter, writing, a small weight, fr. graphain to write—more at CARVE] (1810) 1: a metric unit of mass equal to 1/1000 kilogram and nearly equal to the mass of one cubic centimeter of water at maximum density—see METRIC SYSTEM table 2: the weight of a substance under the acceleration of gravity

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abut kitten, F table further ash ace mop, mar out chin bet easy go hit ice job shag go law boy th thin the loot foot yet vision, beige k, a, ce, see Guide to Pronunciation

gram-i-cl-din \gra-mə-'sī-d'n n [gram-positive + -i- + -cide + -in] (1940): any of several toxic crystalline polypeptide antibiotics produced by a soil bacterium (Bacillus brevis) and used against gram-positive bacteria in local infections

gram-i-niv-o-rous \gra-mə-'nī-və-'rəs adj [L gramineus, fr. gramin-, gramen grass] (ca. 1658): of or relating to a grass

gram-mar \gra-mər n [ME gramere, fr. AF gramatre, modif. of L grammatica, fr. Gk grammatikē, fr. fem. of grammatikos of letters, fr. classes of words, their inflections, and their functions and relations in the sentence b: a study of what is to be preferred and what avoided in inflection and syntax 2 a: the characteristic system of inflections and syntax of a language b: a system of rules that defines the grammatical structure of a language 3 a: a grammar textbook b: speech or writing evaluated according to its conformity to grammatical rules theater; also: a set of such principles or rules — gram-mar-i-an \gra-'mər-ē-ən n

grammar school n (14c) 1 a: a secondary school emphasizing Latin and Greek in preparation for college b: a British college preparatory school 2: a school intermediate between primary school and high school 3: ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

gram-mat-i-cal \gra-'ma-tī-kəl adj (1530) 1: of or relating to grammar 2: conforming to the rules of grammar (a ~ sentence) — ti-k(ə)-lē adv — gram-mat-i-cal-ness \-kəl-nəs n

gram-mat-i-cal n (1769): the part of meaning that varies from one inflectional form to another (as from plays to played to playing) — compare LEXICAL MEANING

gram-me chiefly Brit var of GRAM
gram-mole-cu-lar weight n (ca. 1902): the mass of one mole of a compound equal in grams to the molecular weight — called also gram-mole-cule

Gram-my \gra-'mē service mark — used for the annual presentation of a statuette for notable achievement in the recording industry

gram-neg-a-tive \gra-'mē-gə-'tīv adj (1907): not holding the purple dye when stained by Gram's stain — used chiefly of bacteria

gram-o-phone \gra-'mō-'fōn n [fr. Gramophone, a trademark] (1887): PHONOGRAPH

grams \gra-'m p) or gramp \gra-'m p) n, pl gramps [by shortening & alter.] (ca. 1900): GRANDFATHER 1 a

gram-posit-ive \gra-'pō-zī-tīv, -'pōz-ī-tīv adj (1907): holding the purple dye when stained by Gram's stain — used chiefly of bacteria

gram-pus \gra-'pəs n [alter. of ME graspey, graspy, fr. AF graspeis, fr. gras fat (fr. L crassus) + peis fish, fr. L piscis — more at CRASS, FISH] (ca. 1529) 1: a dolphin (Grampus griseus) of temperate and tropical (Margaroproschus giganteus) of the southern U.S.

Gram's stain \gra-'m z) or Gram stain \gra-'m z) n [Hans C. J. Gram †1938 Dan. physician] (1903) 1: a method for the differential staining of bacteria by treatment with a watery solution of iodine and the iodide of potassium after staining with a triphenylmethane dye (as crystal violet) — called also Gram's method 2: the chemicals used in Gram's stain

gram-vari-able \gra-'vər-ē-ə-bəl adj (1956): staining irregularly or inconsistently by Gram's stain

gran \gra-'n (1863): GRANDMOTHER 1

grana pl of GRANUM
gran-a-dil-la \gra-'nə-'dī-lə, -'dē-(y)-əl n [Sp. dim. of granada pomegranate, fr. LL granata — more at GRENADE] (1613) 1: any of various usu. egg-shaped to football-shaped passion fruits (esp. of Passiflora flower that produces granadillas

gran-a-ry \gra-'nə-rē, -'grā-n, pl -ries [L granarium, fr. granum grain] (1570) 1 a: a storehouse for threshed grain b: a region producing grain in abundance 2: a chief source or storehouse

grand \gra-'nd adj [AF grant, grand, large, great, grand, fr. L grandis] (1548) 1 a: having more importance than others: FOREMOST b: having higher rank than others bearing the same general designation (the ~ champion) 2 a: INCLUSIVE, COMPREHENSIVE (the ~ total amount) 3: CHIEF, PRINCIPAL 4: large and striking in size, scope, ex-ent, or conception (~ design) 5 a: LAVISH, SUMPTUOUS (a ~ cele-ration) b: marked by a regal form and dignity c: fine or imposing appearance or impression d: LOFTY, SUBLIME (writing in the ~ style) 6 a: pretending to social superiority: SUPERBILIOUS b: INFLU (a ~ time) — grand-ly \gra-'nd-ly adv — grand-ness \gra-'nd-nəs n

SYN GRAND, MAGNIFICENT, IMPOSING, STATELY, MAJESTIC, GRANDI-OSITY mean large and impressive. GRAND adds to greatness of size the implications of handsomeness and dignity (a grand staircase). MAGNIFICENT implies an impressive largeness proportionate to scale with-OUT sacrifice of dignity or good taste (magnificent paintings). IMPOS-ING implies great size and dignity but esp. stresses impressiveness (an imposing edifice). STATELY may suggest poised dignity, erectness of bearing, handsomeness of proportions, ceremonious deliberation of movement (the stately procession). MAJESTIC combines the implica-tions of IMPOSING and STATELY and usu. adds a suggestion of solemn grandeur (a majestic waterfall). GRANDIOSITY implies a size or scope exceeding ordinary experience (grandiose hydroelectric projects) but is most commonly applied derogatorily to inflated pretension or ab-surd exaggeration (grandiose schemes).

grand n (1840) 1: GRAND PIANO 2 pl grand slang: a thousand dol-lars

chaku [Jp dial. (Okinawa)] (1970): a weapon that consists of two hardwood sticks joined at their ends by a short length of rawhide, cord, or chain
nun-cla-ture \nən(t)-sē-ō-čhūr, 'nūn(t)-, -chər, -'tūr, -'tūr\ n [It *nunciatura*, fr. *nuncio*] (1652) 1: a papal diplomatic mission headed by a nuncio 2: the office or period of office of a nuncio
nun-clo \nən(t)-sē-ō, 'nūn(t)-\ n, pl -cl-ōs [It, fr. L *nuntius* messenger, message] (1528) 1: a papal legate of the highest rank permanently accredited to a civil government
nun-cle \nən-ka\ n [by alter. (fr. misdivision of an uncle)] (ca. 1589) chiefly dial: UNCLE

nun-cu-pa-tive \nən-kyū-pā-tiv, 'nəp-, nən-'kyū-pā-\ adj [ML *nuncupatus*, fr. LL, so-called, fr. L *nuncupatus*, pp. of *nuncupare* to name, prob. ultim. fr. *nomen* name + *capere* to take — more at NAME, HEAVE] (1546): not written: ORAL (a ~ will)
nun-ery \nən-rē, 'nə-nə-\ n, pl -ner-ies (14c): a convent of nuns
nun-mam \nū-'mām\ n [Vietnamese *nưc mắm*, lit., salted fish sauce] (1919): a sauce made of fish (as anchovies) fermented in brine
nun-ope \nū-'pā\ n, pl Nupes or NUPES (1883): a member of a people of west central Nigeria; also: the language of the Nupe people
nun-pial \nəp-shəl, -chəl, +shə-wəl, +chə-wəl\ adj [L *nuptialis*, fr. *nuptia*, n. wedding, fr. *nubere* to marry; perh. akin to Gk *nymphē* bride, nymph] (15c) 1: of or relating to marriage or the marriage ceremony 2: characteristic of or occurring in the breeding season (~ flight)
nuptial n (ca. 1555): MARRIAGE, WEDDING — usu. used in pl.
nup-tial-ly \nəp-shē-'a-lē-tē, -chē-\ n, pl -ties (1899): the marriage rate

Nur-istan \nūr-ō-'stā-nē, 'nyūr-\ n [Nuristan, Afghanistan] (1951) 1: a member of a group of peoples of the Hindu Kush in northeastern Afghanistan 2: the family of languages spoken by the Nuristanis that constitutes a distinct branch of Indo-Iranian
nurse \nɜrs\ n [ME *nurice*, *norice*, *norre*, fr. AF *nurice*, fr. LL *nutricia*, fr. L, fem. of *nutricius* nourishing — more at NUTRITIOUS] (13c) 1 a: a woman who suckles an infant not her own; WET NURSE b: a woman who takes care of a young child; DRY NURSE 2: one that looks after, fosters, or advises 3: a person who cares for the sick or infirm; *specif.*: a licensed health-care professional who practices independently or is supervised by a physician, surgeon, or dentist and who is skilled in promoting and maintaining health — compare LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE, REGISTERED NURSE 4 a: a worker form of a social insect (as an ant or a bee) that cares for the young b: a female mammal used to suckle the young of another

nurse v \nɜrs-\ vt (14c): 1 a: to nourish at the breast: SUCKLE b: to take nourishment from the breast of 2: REAR, EDUCATE 3 a: to promote the development or progress of b: to manage with care or economy (~nursed the business through hard times) (~nursed a 1-0 lead) c: to take charge of and watch over 4 a: to care for and wait on (as a sick person) b: to attempt to cure by care and treatment 5: to hold in one's memory or consideration (~ a grievance) 6 a: to use, handle, or operate carefully so as to conserve energy or avoid injury or pain (~ a sprained ankle) b: to use sparingly c: to consume slowly or over a long period (~ a cup of coffee) vi 1 a: to feed an offspring from the breast b: to feed at the breast: SUCK 2: to act or serve as a nurse — nurse-er n
nurse-maid \nɜrs-'mā-d\ n (1657): a girl or woman who is regularly employed to look after children
nurse-mid-wife \nɜrs-'mīd-'wīf\ n (1952): a registered nurse with additional training as a midwife who delivers infants and provides prenatal and postpartum care, newborn care, and some routine care (as gynecological exams) of women — nurse-mid-wife-ry \nɜrs-'mīd-'wīf-(ə)-rē, -'wī-'mīd-'wī-\ n

nurse-prac-ti-tion-er \nɜrs-'prāk-'tī-sh(ə)-nɜr\ n (1969): a registered nurse who is qualified through advanced training to assume some of the duties and responsibilities formerly assumed only by a physician
nurse-ry \nɜrs-rē, 'nɜrs-sə-\ n, pl -er-ies (14c) 1 obs: attentive care 2: POSTERAGE 2 b: a child's bedroom b: a place where children are temporarily cared for in their parents' absence c: DAY NURSERY 3 a: something that fosters, develops, or promotes b: a place in which persons are trained or educated 4: an area where plants are grown for transplanting, for use as stocks for budding and grafting, or for sale 5: a place where young animals grow or are cared for
nurse-ry-man \nɜrs-'mən\ n (1672): one whose occupation is the cultivation of plants (as trees and shrubs) esp. for sale
nursery rhyme n (1816): a short rhyme for children that often tells a story

nursery school n (1835): a school for children usu. under five years
nurse's aide n (1943): a worker who assists trained nurses in a hospital by performing unspecialized services (as giving baths)
nurse shark n [alter. of *nusse*] (1851): any of various sharks (as family *Ginglymostomatidae*); esp: a shark (*Ginglymostoma cirratum*) of warm waters
nursing n (1860) 1: the profession of a nurse (schools of ~) 2: the duties of a nurse (proper ~ is difficult work)
nursing home n (1896): a privately operated establishment providing maintenance and personal or nursing care for persons (as the aged or the chronically ill) who are unable to care for themselves properly
nurse-ling \nɜrs-līŋ\ n (1557) 1: one that is solicitously cared for 2: a nursing child

nur-tur-ance \nɜr-čə-rən(t)s\ n, ca. 1938): affectionate care and attention — nur-tur-ant \nɜr-tur-ənt\ adj
nur-ture \nɜr-čər\ n [ME *nurture*, *nurture*, fr. AF *nurture*, fr. LL *nurtura* act of nursing, fr. L *nurtus*, pp. of *nurire* to suckle, nourish — more at NOURISH] (14c) 1: TRAINING, UPRISING 2: something that nourishes: FOOD 3: the sum of the environmental factors influencing the behavior and traits expressed by an organism
nur-ture v \nɜr-tur-\ vt, \nɜr-tur-ŋ\ vt, \nɜr-čə-\ vt (15c) 1: to supply with nourishment 2: EDUCATE 3: to further the development of: POSTER — nur-tur-er \nɜr-tur-ər\ n
nur-tur-er \nɜr-tur-ər\ n [ME *nurte*, *note*, fr. OE *hnuta*; akin to OHG *nuz* nut and perh. to L *nux* nut] (bef. 12c) 1 (a): a hard-shelled dry fruit or seed with a separable rind or shell and interior kernel (2): the kernel of a nut b: a dry indehiscent one-seeded fruit with a woody pericarp 2 a: a hard problem or undertaking b: CORE, HEART 3: a perforated

block usu. of metal that has an internal screw thread and is used on a bolt or screw for tightening or holding something 4: the ridge in a stringed instrument (as a violin) over which the strings pass on the upper end of the fingerboard 5: a small lump (as of butter) 6 a: a foolish, eccentric, or crazy person b: ENTHUSIAST (a movie ~) 7 pl: NONSENSE — often used interjectionally 8 slang: a person's head 9 usu. vulgar: TESTIS 10: the amount of money that must be earned in order to break even 11: EN 1 — nut-like \-līk\ adj
nut v \nʌt-\ vt, \nʌt-ŋ\ vt (1604): to gather or seek nuts
nut-tate \nʌt-'tāt, 'nyū-\ vt, \nʌt-tāt-\ vt (1880): to exhibit or undergo nutation
nut-ta-tion \nʌt-'tā-shən, nyū-\ n [L *nutatio*, *nutatio*, fr. *nutare* to nod, rock — more at NUMEN] (1612) 1 archaic: the act of nodding (the head) 2: oscillatory movement of the axis of a rotating body (as the earth): WOBBLE 3: a spontaneous usu. spiral movement of a growing plant part — nut-ta-tion-al \-nʌt-əl, -shə-nəl\ adj
nut-brown \nʌt-'braʊn\ adj (14c): of the color of a brown nut
nut-case \-kās\ n (1959): NUT 6a
nut-crack-er \-kræk-ər\ n (ca. 1548): an implement for cracking nuts
nut-gall \-gɔl\ n (15c): a gall that resembles a nut; esp: such a gall produced on oaks

nut grass n (1775): a perennial sedge (*Cyperus rotundus*) of wide distribution that has slender rootstocks bearing small edible tubers resembling nuts; also: a related sedge (*C. esculentus*)
nut-hatch \nʌt-'hæč\ n [ME *nothache*, fr. *note* nut + *hache*; akin to OE *tohaccian* to hack — more at HACK] (14c): any of various small tree-climbing chiefly insectivorous birds (family Sittidae and esp. genus *Sitta*) that have a compact body, a narrow bill, a short tail, and sometimes a black cap
nut-house \nʌt-'haʊs\ n (1900) slang: a mental hospital
nut-let \nʌt-lət\ n (1856) 1 a: a small nut b: a small fruit similar to a nut 2: the stone of a drupelet
nut-meg \nʌt-'meg, -'mæg\ n [ME *notemigge*, *notemuge*, ultim. fr. Old Occitan *noz muscada*, fr. *noz* nut (fr. L *nuc-*, *nux*) + *muscada*, fem. of *muscat* musky — more at MUSCAT] (15c) 1: an aromatic seed produced by an evergreen tree (*Myristica fragrans*) of the family Myristicaceae, the nutmeg family) native to the Moluccas; also: the ground seed used as a spice — compare MACE 2 2: a tree yielding nutmeg
nut-pick \nʌt-'pīk\ n (1862): a small sharp-pointed implement for extracting the kernels from nuts



nut-hatch

nut-ra-cen-ti-cal \nʌt-'rē-ə, 'nyū-\ n [AmerSp, fr. Sp. otter, modif. of L *nutra*; prob. akin to OE *oter* otter] (1820) 1: the durable usu. light brown fur of a nutria 2: a large So. American semiaquatic rodent (*Myocastor coypus*) with webbed hind feet and a round nearly hairless tail that has been introduced into parts of Europe, Asia, and No. America
nut-ri-ent \nʌt-rē-ənt, 'nyū-\ adj [L *nutrient*, *nutrients*, pp. of *nutrire* to nourish — more at NOURISH] (1650): furnishing nourishment
nutrient n (ca. 1828): a nutritive substance or ingredient
nut-ri-ment \nʌt-trə-mənt, 'nyū-\ n [ME, fr. L *nutrimentum*, fr. *nutrire*] (15c): something that nourishes or promotes growth, provides energy, repairs body tissues, and maintains life
nut-ri-tion \nʌt-'trī-shən, nyū-\ n [ME *nutricion*, fr. LL *nutritio*, *nutritio*, fr. L *nutrire*] (15c) 1: the act or process of nourishing or being nourished; *specif.*: the sum of the processes by which an animal or plant takes in and utilizes food substances 2: NOURISHMENT 1 — nut-ri-tion-al \-trī-shə-nəl, -'trī-shə-nəl\ adj — nut-ri-tion-al-ly adv
nut-ri-tion-ist \-trī-sh(ə)-nɪst\ n (1926): a specialist in the study of nutrition

nut-ri-tious \nʌt-'trī-shəs, nyū-\ adj [L *nutricius*, fr. *nutric-*, *nutrix* nurse, fr. *nutrire* to nourish — more at NOURISH] (1665): NOURISHING — nut-ri-tious-ly adv — nut-ri-tious-ness n
nut-ri-tive \nʌt-'trī-tiv, 'nyū-\ adj (14c) 1: of or relating to nutrition 2: NOURISHING — nut-ri-tive-ly adv
nutritive ratio n (1897): the ratio of digestible protein to other nutrients in a foodstuff or ration
nuts \nʌts\ adj (1785) 1: ENTHUSIASTIC, KEEN (~ for animals and children — Rick Reilly) 2: INSANE, CRAZY (said that it was a novel and all the people who said otherwise were ~ — Flannery O'Connor)
nuts and bolts n (1967) 1: the working parts or elements 2: the practical workings of a machine or enterprise as opposed to theoretical considerations or speculative possibilities — nuts-and-bolts adj

nut-sedge \nʌt-'sedj\ n (ca. 1909): NUT GRASS
nut-shell \nʌt-'ʃel\ n (13c) 1: the hard external covering in which the kernel of a nut is enclosed 2: something of small size, amount, or scope — in a nutshell: in a very brief statement
nut-ter \nʌ-'tər\ n (1958) slang Brit: NUT 6a
nut-ty \nʌ-'tē\ adj \nʌt-ŋ-er, -est\ (15c) 1: having or producing nuts 2: having a flavor like that of nuts 3: ECCENTRIC, SILLY; also: mentally unbalanced — nut-tily \-tē-lē\ adv — nut-ti-ness n
Nuu-Chah-Nulth also Nuu Chah Nulth \nū-'chā-nūl\ n, pl Nuu-Chah-Nulth also Nuu Chah Nulth [Nootka *nuc̓a̓n̓ul*, lit., all along the mountains] (1979): NOOTKA
nux vom-i-ca \nʌks-'vɔm-ko\ n, pl nux vomica [NL, lit., emetic nut] (14c) 1: the poisonous disk-shaped seed of a tree (*Strychnos nuxvomica*) of the family Loganiaceae of southern Asia that contains several alkaloids and esp. strychnine and brucine; also: the tree yielding nux vomica 2: a drug containing nux vomica

\ə\ about \ə\ kitten, F table \ər\ further \ə\ ash \ə\ ace \ə\ mop, mar \əd\ out \ch\ chin \e\ bet \ē\ easy \ə\ go \ə\ hit \ə\ ice \ə\ job \ə\ sing \ə\ go \ə\ law \ə\ boy \ə\ thin \ə\ the \ə\ loot \ə\ foot \ə\ yet \ə\ vision, beige \k, ɔ, ce, ve, ʌ see Guide to Pronunciation

ve-da-lla (vi-'däl-yə\ n [NL, genus name] (1889): an Australian lady-bug (*Rodolia cardinalis*) introduced to many countries to control scale insects — called also *vedalla beetle*

Ve-dan-ta (və-'dän-tə, və-, 'dän-\ n [Skt *Vedānta*, lit., end of the Veda, fr. *Veda* + *anta*; end; akin to OE *ende* end] (1788): an orthodox system of Hindu philosophy developing esp. in a qualified monism the speculations of the Upanishads on ultimate reality and the liberation of the soul — *Ve-dan-tism* \və-'dän-ti-zəm, 'dän-\ n — *Ve-dan-tist* \və-'dän-tist, 'dän-\ n

Ve-dan-tic (və-'dän-tik, 'dän-\ adj (1882): 1: of or relating to the Vedānta philosophy 2: VEDIC

Ved-dā or Ved-dah (və-'dā\ n [Sinhalese *vedda* hunter] (1681): a member of an aboriginal people of Sri Lanka

Ved-doid (və-'doid\ n (1928): a member of a race of southern Asia traditionally classified by such physical features as wavy to curly hair, chocolate-brown skin color, and slender body build — *Veddoid* adj

ve-dette or vl-dette (vi-'det\ n [F, fr. It *vedetta*, alter. of *velotta* prob. fr. Sp *vela* watch, fr. *velar* to keep watch, fr. L *vigilare* to wake, watch, fr. *vigil* awake — more at *VIGIL*] (ca. 1611): a mounted sentinel stationed in advance of pickets

Ve-dic (və-'dik\ adj (1848): of or relating to the Vedas, the language in which they are written, or Hindu history and culture between 1500 B.C. and 500 B.C.

vee (və\ n (ca. 1883): 1: something shaped like the letter V 2: the letter v

vee-jay (və-'jā\ n [video jockey] (ca. 1981): an announcer of a program (as on television) that features music videos

veena var of VINA

veep (vəp\ n [fr. v. p. (abbr. for *vice president*)] (1949): VICE PRESIDENT

veer (vīr\ v [ME *veren*, of LG or D origin; akin to MD *veren* to slacken, MLG *vieren*] (15c): to let out (as a rope)

veer vb [ME *veren*, fr. MF *vīrer*, fr. OF, to throw with a twisting motion, fr. VL *vibrare*, alter. of L *vibrare* to wave, propel suddenly — more at *VIBRATE*] v (15c): 1: to change direction or course (the economy ~ed sharply downward) 2: of the wind: to shift in a clockwise direction — compare *BACK* 3: to wear ship ~ w: to direct to a different course; *specif*: *WEAR* 7 *syn* see *SWERVE* — *veer-ing-ly* \və-'iŋ-lē\ adv

veer n (ca. 1611): a change in course or direction (a ~ to the right)

vee-ry (vī-'rē\ n, pl *veeries* [prob. limit.] (1838): an American thrush (*Catharus fuscescens*) common in the eastern U.S.

veg (vɛj\ n, pl *vegs* (1918) *chiefly Brit*: VEGETABLE

Ve-ga (və-'gə, vā-\ n [NL, fr. Ar (*al-Nasr*) *al-Wāqī'*, lit., the falling (vulture)] (ca. 1638): the brightest star in the constellation Lyra

veg-an (və-'gən also vā- also 've-jən or 'jan\ n [by contr. fr. *vegetarian*] (1944): a strict vegetarian who consumes no animal food or dairy products; also: one who abstains from using animal products (as leather) — *vegan* adj — *veg-an-ism* \və-'gən-iz-əm, vā-gə-'ve-jə-\ n

veg-e-ta-ble (vɛj-'tə-bəl, 've-jə-\ adj [ME, fr. ML *vegetabilis* vegetative, fr. *vegetare* to grow, fr. L, to animate, fr. *vegetus* lively, fr. *vegere* to enliven — more at *WAKE*] (15c): 1 a: of, relating to, constituting, or growing like plants b: consisting of plants: VEGETATIONAL 2: made from, obtained from, or containing plants or plant products (~ soup) (~ fat) 3: resembling or suggesting a plant (as in inertness or passivity)

2 *vegetable* n (15c): 1: PLANT 1b 2: a usu. herbaceous plant (as the cabbage, bean, or potato) grown for an edible part that is used, eaten as part of a meal; also: such an edible part 3: a person whose mental and physical functioning is severely impaired and esp. one who requires supportive measures (as mechanical ventilation) to survive

vegetable ivory n (1842): 1: the hard white opaque endosperm of the ivory nut that takes a high polish and is used as a substitute for ivory 2: IVORY NUT

vegetable marrow n (ca. 1816) *chiefly Brit*: any of various smooth-skinned elongated summer squashes with creamy-white to deep green skins

vegetable oil n (1765): an oil of plant origin; *esp*: a fatty oil from seeds or fruits

vegetable oyster n (ca. 1818): SALSIFY

vegetable pear n (1887): CHAYOTE

vegetable wax n (1815): a wax of plant origin secreted commonly in thin flakes by the walls of epidermal cells

veg-e-ta-bly (vɛj-'tə-blē, 've-jə-\ adv or adj (1651): in the manner of or like a vegetable

veg-e-tal (və-'jə-'təl\ adj [ML *vegetare* to grow] (15c): 1: VEGETABLE 2: VEGETATIVE 3: of or relating to the vegetal pole of an egg or to that part of an egg from which the endoderm normally develops (~ blastomeres)

vegetal pole n (1896): the point on the surface of an egg that is diametrically opposite to the animal pole and usu. marks the center of the protoplasm containing more yolk — see *BLASTULA* illustration

1 *veg-e-tar-i-an* \və-'jə-'tər-ē-ən\ n [*vegetable* + *arian*] (1839): 1: one who believes in or practices vegetarianism 2: HERBIVORE

2 *vegetarian* adj (1849): 1: of or relating to vegetarians 2: consisting wholly of vegetables, fruits, grains, nuts, and sometimes eggs or dairy products (a ~ diet)

veg-e-tar-i-an-ism \və-'jə-'tər-ē-əm\ n (ca. 1851): the theory or practice of living on a vegetarian diet

veg-e-tate (və-'jə-'tāt, 'tāt-\ v [ML *vegetatus*, pp. of *vegetare* to grow] v (1605): 1 a: to grow in the manner of a plant; also: to grow exuberantly or with proliferation of fleshy or warty outgrowths b: to produce vegetation 2: to lead a passive existence without exertion of body or mind ~ vi: to establish vegetation in or on

veg-e-ta-tion \və-'jə-'tā-shən\ n (1564): 1: the act or process of vegetating 2: inert existence 3: plant life or total plant cover (as of an area) 4: an abnormal growth upon a body part (fibrin ~ on the mitral valve) — *veg-e-ta-tion-al* \-shənəl, -shə-'nəl\ adj

veg-e-ta-tive (və-'jə-'tā-tiv\ adj (14c): 1 a (1): growing or having the power of growing (2): of, relating to, or engaged in nutritive and growth functions as contrasted with reproductive functions (a ~ nucleus) b: promoting plant growth (the ~ properties of soil) c: of, relating to, or involving propagation by nonsexual processes or methods 2: relating to, composed of, or suggesting vegetation 3: of or

relating to the division of nature comprising the plant kingdom 4: a: AUTONOMOUS 1 b: characterized by, resulting from, or being a state of severe mental impairment in which only involuntary bodily functions are sustained 5: VEGETABLE 3 — *veg-e-ta-tive-ly* adv — *veg-e-ta-tive-ness* n

ve-ge-te (və-'jɛt\ adj [L *vegetus* — more at VEGETABLE] (1639) *archaic*: LIVELY, HEALTHY

veg-gie also veg-ge (və-'jɛ\ n [by shortening & alter.] (1955): 1: VEGETABLE 2 *slang*: VEGETARIAN

veggie burger n (1972): a patty chiefly of vegetable-derived protein used as a meat substitute; also: a sandwich containing such a patty

veg out (vɛj-\ v [vegged out; veg-ging out [short for *vegetate*] (1980): to spend time idly or passively

ve-he-mence (və-'məns\ n (15c): the quality or state of being vehement: INTENSITY

ve-he-ment (və-'mənt\ adj [ME, fr. MF, fr. L *vehement*, *vehemens*, *vemens*, *vemens*] (15c): marked by forceful energy: POWERFUL (a ~ wind); as a: intensely emotional: IMPASSIONED, FERVID (~ patriotism) b (1): deeply felt (a ~ suspicion) (2): forcibly expressed (~ denunciations) c: bitterly antagonistic (a ~ debate) — *ve-he-ment-ly* adv

ve-hi-cle (və-'kaɪl also vɛ-'hi-kəl\ n [F *véhicule*, fr. L *vehiculum* carriage, conveyance, fr. *vehere* to carry — more at WAY] (1612): 1 a: an inert medium (as a syrup) in which a medicinally active agent is administered b: any of various media acting usu. as solvents, carriers, or binders for active ingredients or pigments 2: an agent of transmission: CARRIER 3: a medium through which something is expressed, achieved, or displayed (an investment ~); *esp*: a work created *esp*. to display the talents of a particular performer 4: a means of carrying or transporting something (planes, trains, and other ~s); as a: MOTOR VEHICLE b: a piece of mechanized equipment

ve-hi-cu-lar (və-'hi-kyə-lər\ adj (1616): 1 a: of, relating to, or designed for vehicles and *esp*. motor vehicles b: transported by vehicle c: caused by or resulting from the operation of a vehicle (~ homicide) 2: serving as a vehicle

V-8 (və-'eɪt\ n (1930): an internal combustion engine having two banks of four cylinders each with the banks at an angle to each other; also: an automobile having such an engine

veil (vā\ n [ME, fr. AF *veil*, *veile*, fr. L *vela*, pl. of *velum* sail, awning, curtain] (13c): 1 a: a length of cloth worn by women as a covering for the head and shoulders and often *esp*. in Eastern countries for the face; *specif*: the outer covering of a nun's headdress b: a length of veiling or netting worn over the head or face or attached for protection or ornament to a hat or headdress (a bridal ~) c: any of various liturgical cloths; *esp*: a cloth used to cover the chalice 2: the life of a nun — often used in the phrase *take the veil* 3: a concealing curtain or cover of cloth 4: something that resembles a veil (~ of stars); 5: something that hides or obscures like a veil (the ~ of secrecy) 6: a covering body part or membrane: as a: VELUM b: CAUL

2 *veil* v (14c): to cover, provide, obscure, or conceal with or as if with a veil ~ vi: to put on or wear a veil

veiled (vāld\ adj (14c): 1 a: having or wearing a veil or a concealing cover (a ~ hat) b: characterized by a softening tonal distortion 2: obscured as if by a veil: DISGUISED (~ threats)

veiled (vāld\ n (13c): 1: any of various light sheer fabrics 2: *VEN*

vein (vān\ n [ME *veine*, fr. AF, fr. L *vena*] (14c): 1 a: a narrow water channel in rock or earth or in ice b (1): LOBE 2 (2): a bed of useful mineral matter c: LOBE 3 2: BLOOD VESSEL; *esp*: any of the tubular branching vessels that carry blood from the capillaries toward the heart 3 a: any of the vascular bundles forming the framework of a leaf b: any of the thickened cuticular ribs that serve to stiffen the wings of an insect 4: something suggesting veins (as in reticulation); *specif*: a wavy variegation (as in marble) 5 a: a distinctive mode of expression: STYLE (stories in a romantic ~) b: a distinctive element or quality: STRAIN (introduced a welcome ~ of humor) c: a line of thought or action (renewed discussion along the same ~) 6 a: a special aptitude (inherited an artistic ~) b: a usu. transitory and casually attained mood c: top form (thou troublest me; I am not in the ~ — Shak.) — *vein-ally* \vā-'nəl\ adj

2 *vein* v (1502): to pattern with or as if with veins

veined (vānd\ adj (ca. 1529): patterned with or as if with veins: having venation: STREAKED (a ~ leaf) (~ marble) (~ cheese)

vein-er (vā-'nər\ n (1895): a small V gouge used in wood carving

vein-ing (vā-'nɪŋ\ n (1826): a pattern of veins: VENATION

vein-let (vān-'lət\ n (1831): a small vein

veiny (vā-'nē\ adj (1611): full of veins: noticeably veined (~ hands)

vel abbr velocity

ve-la-men (və-'lā-mən\ n, pl *ve-lam-i-na* \və-'lā-mə-nə\ [NL, fr. L, covering, fr. *velare* to cover, fr. *velum* curtain] (1882): the thick corky epidermis of aerial roots of an epiphytic orchid that absorbs water from the atmosphere

ve-lar (və-'lār\ adj [NL *velaris*, fr. *velum*] (1876): 1: formed with the back of the tongue touching or near the soft palate (the ~ lk of *Vkūā* cool) 2: of, forming, or relating to a velum and *esp*. the soft palate — *velar* n

ve-lar-i-um (və-'lār-ē-əm\ n, pl *-ia* \-ē-ə\ [L, fr. *velum* curtain] (1834): an awning over an ancient Roman theater or amphitheater

ve-lar-i-z-a-tion \və-'lār-zā-shən\ n (1915): 1: the quality or state of being velarized 2: an act or instance of velarizing

ve-lar-ize (və-'lār-īz\ v -ized, -iz-ing (1915): to modify (as the *V*) of (/pU/ pool) by a simultaneous velar articulation

Vel-cro (vəl-'krō\ trademark — used for a closure consisting of a piece of fabric of small hooks that sticks to a corresponding fabric of small loops

veld or veldt (vɛlt, 'vɛlt\ n [Afrik *veld*, fr. D, field; akin to OE *feld* field] (1835): a grassland *esp*. of southern Africa usu. with scattered shrubs or trees

ve-il-ger (və-'lɛ-jər, 'və-\ n [NL, fr. *velum* + *ger* bearing, fr. *gerere* to bear] (1877): a larval mollusk in the stage when it has developed the velum

veil-e-ty (və-'lɛ-tē, və-\ n, pl *-ities* [NL *velletas*, fr. L *velle* to wish, will — more at WILL] (1618): 1: the lowest degree of volition 2: a slight wish or tendency: INCLINATION

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